



FACT SHEET

Don't Trash California

- **TRASH-OFF CAMPAIGN:** To illustrate the extent of the trash problem and its drain on transportation resources, 600 District Maintenance workers will pick up trash all day on October 5. Results will be recorded, and the areas that were cleaned will be revisited in one week. Motorists are being challenged to “keep it clean” so that the litter does not return to its pre-cleaned state. Before and After pictures will be posted on the District website: www.dot.ca.gov/dist07.
- **COST:** Every year, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 7 spends close to \$3 million picking up trash from freeways in Los Angeles and Ventura counties. And this is just one of 12 Caltrans districts.
- **AMOUNT:** District 7 Maintenance crews pick up more than 100 Cubic Yards (CY) of trash **daily**. A CY is equivalent to a 3-ft. by 3-ft. by 3-ft. box. Upwards of 37,000 CYs of trash are picked up **annually**, enough to fill the Coliseum. On October 5, workers are expected to pick up roughly 2,000 CYs.
- **DISPOSAL:** Litter that is picked up is taken to a Caltrans maintenance yard, where it is sorted and stored in bins. A private contractor takes the bins to a landfill daily.
- **WHAT DO WE PICK UP?** Everything and anything, from household appliances and furniture to vehicles to vegetation.
- **WHAT CAN BE DONE?** The public can solve the litter problem by disposing of their trash appropriately. Groups and individuals can help by adopting and maintaining a stretch highway through Caltrans' Adopt-a-Highway program.
- **CONTACT:** Judy Gish, Public Information Officer, (213) 897-3487.